



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
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Media Release:

BANK ROBBER WITH EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL HISTORY
SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN PRISON

Michelle L. Jacobs, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, announced that on September 3, 2009, U.S. District Judge Rudolph T. Randa sentenced 46-year-old Milwaukee native Samuel J. Potts to 216 months in prison for bank robbery. Potts entered a plea of guilty to this crime earlier this year. Judge Randa sentenced Potts to an additional 24 months in prison as a penalty for violating the terms of supervised release imposed in connection with a prior bank robbery conviction. The total combined sentence imposed by Judge Randa is 240 months or 20 years. The statutory maximum penalty for this kind of bank robbery is 25 years imprisonment.

Potts used a paintball gun to hold up the Guaranty Bank on 27th Street in Greenfield, Wisconsin on the morning of December 16, 2008. He entered the bank wearing a mask. During the robbery, he grabbed one of the tellers by the hair and demanded that she give him fifty and one-hundred dollar bills. Potts succeeded in stealing more than \$25,000. In sentencing Potts, Judge Randa noted the gravity of the offense as well as Potts's extensive criminal history, which dates back to the age of thirteen and includes a previous federal bank robbery conviction. Potts was on supervised release for that crime when he robbed the Guaranty Bank in 2008.

In addition to serving a lengthy prison sentence, Potts will be required to pay full restitution to bank. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jonathan H. Koenig.

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For Additional Information Contact:

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